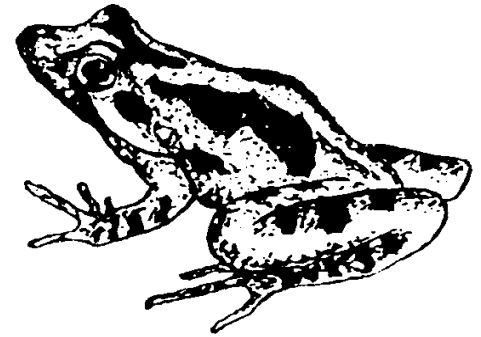




Applying for a Fee Waiver

Everglades National Park can be a powerful source of inspiration and learning. Many groups visiting the park have discovered the unique opportunities the Everglades can afford.

The park commonly receives requests to waive admission fees for visiting groups. When possible, the park may issue fee waivers to educational or scientific institutions providing proper documentation. The procedures for obtaining such a waiver are outlined below for your convenience.



Applying for a Fee Waiver



Bona fide educational or scientific institutions may apply for an entrance fee waiver. To qualify, applications must contain the following:

1. Current, official documentation of recognition as an educational institution by a Federal, State, or local government entity, or other evidence attesting to educational status (i.e., accreditation letter or educational tax exempt letter). It is insufficient to merely state or imply this on official letterhead. **Your fee waiver will not be processed without this documentaion.**
2. Copy the application on the reverse of this page onto your institutional letterhead. Complete the application and send it along with your official recognition as an educational institution.

3. There must be a direct relationship between the visit purpose and the use of the park. The visit must be to study some aspect/resource specific to the park. A general statement to the effect that the visit is for "educational purposes" is insufficient by itself. An explanation of what the educational purpose entails and how it is related to park resources is required. Course outlines, lesson plans, or a copy of the curriculum meets this requirement.



Protecting the Park



Review the following rules and safety precautions so participants will know what is expected of them.

Respect the wildlife: Loud noises are discouraged. Throwing objects at, or other harassment of park animals is strictly prohibited.

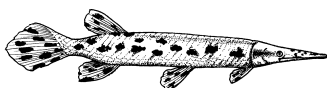
Respect the home and food sources of the wildlife: Please leave all plants, rocks, shells, or other natural objects in the park. Place litter where it belongs.

Respect each other: Running, pushing, or yelling are not allowed on trails. Stay with your class; always have adults lead and bring up the end of the line.

Respect the right of others to enjoy their national park: Loud noises and other disruptive behavior on the trails can spoil the experience for other visitors. **Buses and other loud motor vehicles are asked to turn off their engines when parked at trail heads.**

Groups that do not comply with park regulations will be contacted by a ranger and future fee waiver requests may be denied.

Fee Waiver Entitlements



Fee waivers entitle the entrance of one chaperone for every ten students (or one chaperone for every five for special needs groups). Any additional chaperones will be required to pay the \$5.00 per person fee for the Shark Valley or Main Entrance Station.

Applications must be received 2 weeks in advance of the anticipated visit. **Fee waivers will not be given at the entrance stations and refunds will not be granted.**

If the application is approved, the group's official will receive a copy of the application with an approval signature. Each vehicle must present a copy of the approved fee waiver at the park entrance station. **Fees will not be waived for vehicles who do not have a copy of the waiver.**

The entrance fee waiver does not entitle your group to any special ranger presentations.

Application for Educational Fee Waiver

Copy onto institutional letterhead and complete.

Mail or Fax application to: Chief Ranger's Office, Everglades National Park, Attention: Chris Williamson,
40001 State Road 9336, Homestead, FL 33034 Tel.: (305) 242-7745 Fax: (305) 242-7716

You must have this fee waiver in your possession when arriving at the park's entrance station.

Each vehicle in the group must present a copy of the approved application.

Name of Institution _____

Address _____

Official in charge of group _____ Phone Number _____

Number of Students _____ Where you will enter the Park _____

Number of Faculty/Chaperones _____ Number of Vehicles _____

Date of Arrival _____ Time of Arrival _____ # of Days in Park _____

1. Course Title, Catalog Number, and Description or Grade Level and Subject Matter

2. Explain the educational purpose of the trip. What aspect/resource of the park is to be studied:

3. I understand that the Code of Federal Regulations allows Fee Waivers only for educational and/or scientific institutions that are using the park for educational purposes. I hereby certify that the above detailed trip meets these requirements and therefore request that fees be waived. Current official documentation of recognition of affiliation as an educational institution by a Federal, State or local government entity, or other evidence attesting to educational status is attached (e.g. *accreditation letter, educational tax exempt letter*).

Name & Signature of official In Charge of Group

Telephone

Title

Fax

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE APPROVAL

Required Documentation

Type _____

Signature of Park Official: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____